



Future Naval Capability: CMP 14-02  
UAS Interface, Selection, Training Technologies (U-ASISTT):

# Development of Control Station Human-Machine Interface (CaSHMI) for Unmanned Systems

**Jeffrey G. Morrison, Ph.D.**, Office of Naval Research: Program Manager

**Lynn M. Ewart, Ph.D.**, NUWC Newport: Execution Manager

**Maia Cook, Ph.D.**, Pacific Science and Engineering: Human Factors Lead

- - -

**Darren Powell**, SSC Pacific: Software Development & MOCU Lead

**Scott R. Sideleau**, NUWC Newport: Architecture Lead



**GENERAL DYNAMICS**  
Advanced Information Systems



**Georgia Tech** Research Institute



DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A. Approved for public release. *Distribution is unlimited.*



# Acknowledgements

## Performers

**Pacific Science & Engineering**

**Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Pacific**

**Naval Undersea Warfare Center – Division Newport**

**Naval Air Warfare Center – Aircraft Division**

**Georgia Tech Research Institute**

## Partners

**General Dynamics – Advanced Information Systems**

**Johns Hopkins – Applied Physics Laboratory**

**Progeny Systems**



**GENERAL DYNAMICS**  
Advanced Information Systems



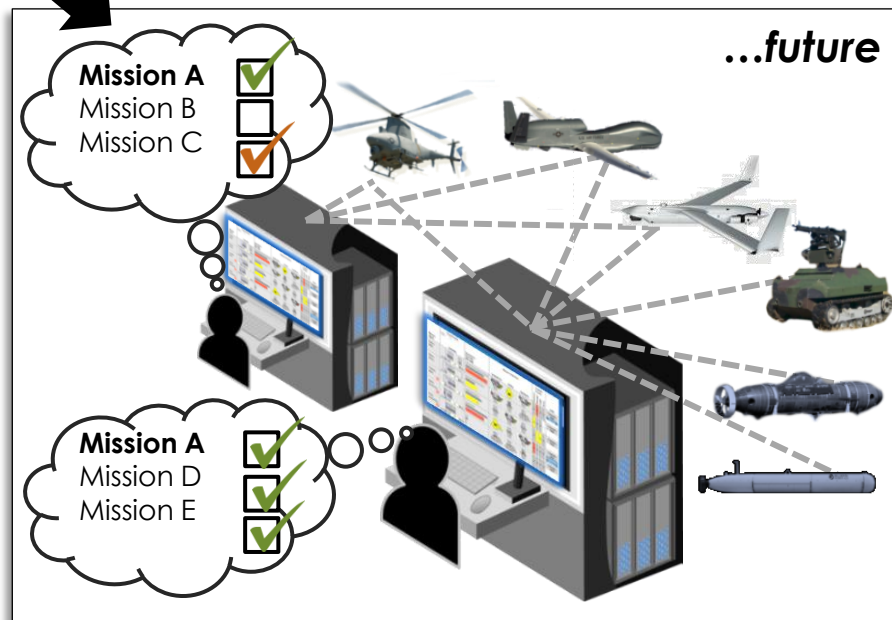
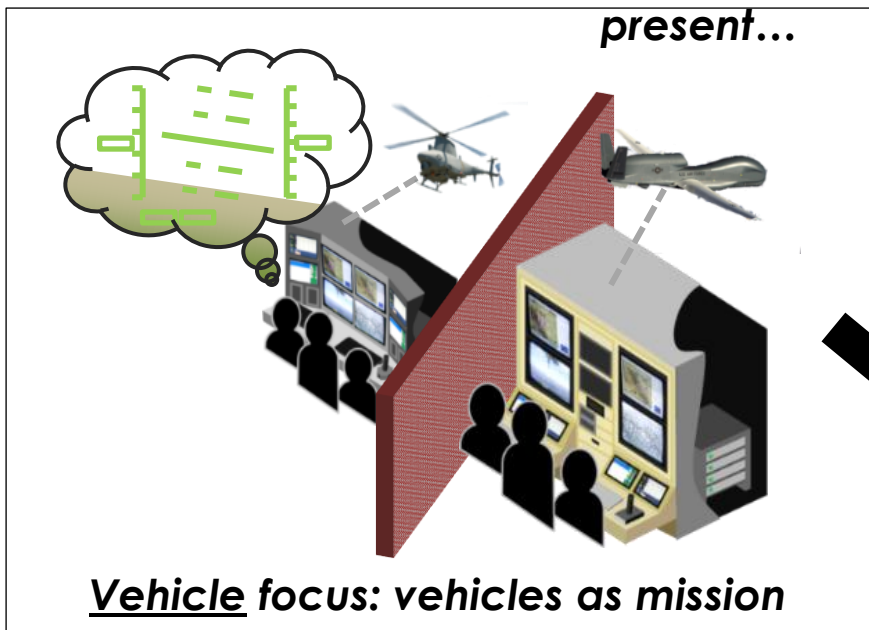


# Outline

- Overview
  - Motivation
  - Approach
- The Human-Machine Interface
  - User Centered Design
  - Design Principals
- Assessment & Testing
  - Cognitive Modeling
  - Live UAS and UUV Asset Demonstrations
- Summary

# Motivation and Approach

# Motivation





# Approach

- Concept of employment for UxV supervisory control and mission management
- Human-Machine Interface (HMI) Designed and Developed:
  - With considerable input from Fleet UAS and UUV operators
  - Using formal Human Factors design methodology
- Software implementation for
  - ✓ Command and control for submarine Blackwing UAV<sup>1</sup> & UUV<sup>2,3</sup>
  - Fire Scout experimentation (Summer 2017)
- CaSHMI is transitioning to
  - Submarine's Payload Control System (PMS 425 in PEO SUB) and
  - Common Control System (CCS) (PMA 281 in PEO U&W)

<sup>1</sup> UAV = unmanned air vehicle

<sup>2</sup> UUV = unmanned undersea vehicle

<sup>3</sup> mission toggle for UUV C2

# CaSHMI

## A Focus on the Human-Machine Interface



# CaSHMI Human Machine Interface (HMI) Design Objectives



- Develop a HMI design that
  - is **better matched to operator tasks** involved in using unmanned vehicles
    - Improve operator performance, more efficient use of personnel, achieve benefits offered by unmanned vehicles
  - is **standardized** for use across different unmanned vehicles (UAV, UUV) employed in different domains
    - Reduce training costs and time
  - can **scale** for *future* types of unmanned vehicles/sensors, operations, automation, and operator roles
    - Reduce engineering costs of expanding to future vehicles/sensors, etc

***Pave the way for future employment of vehicles and sensors***



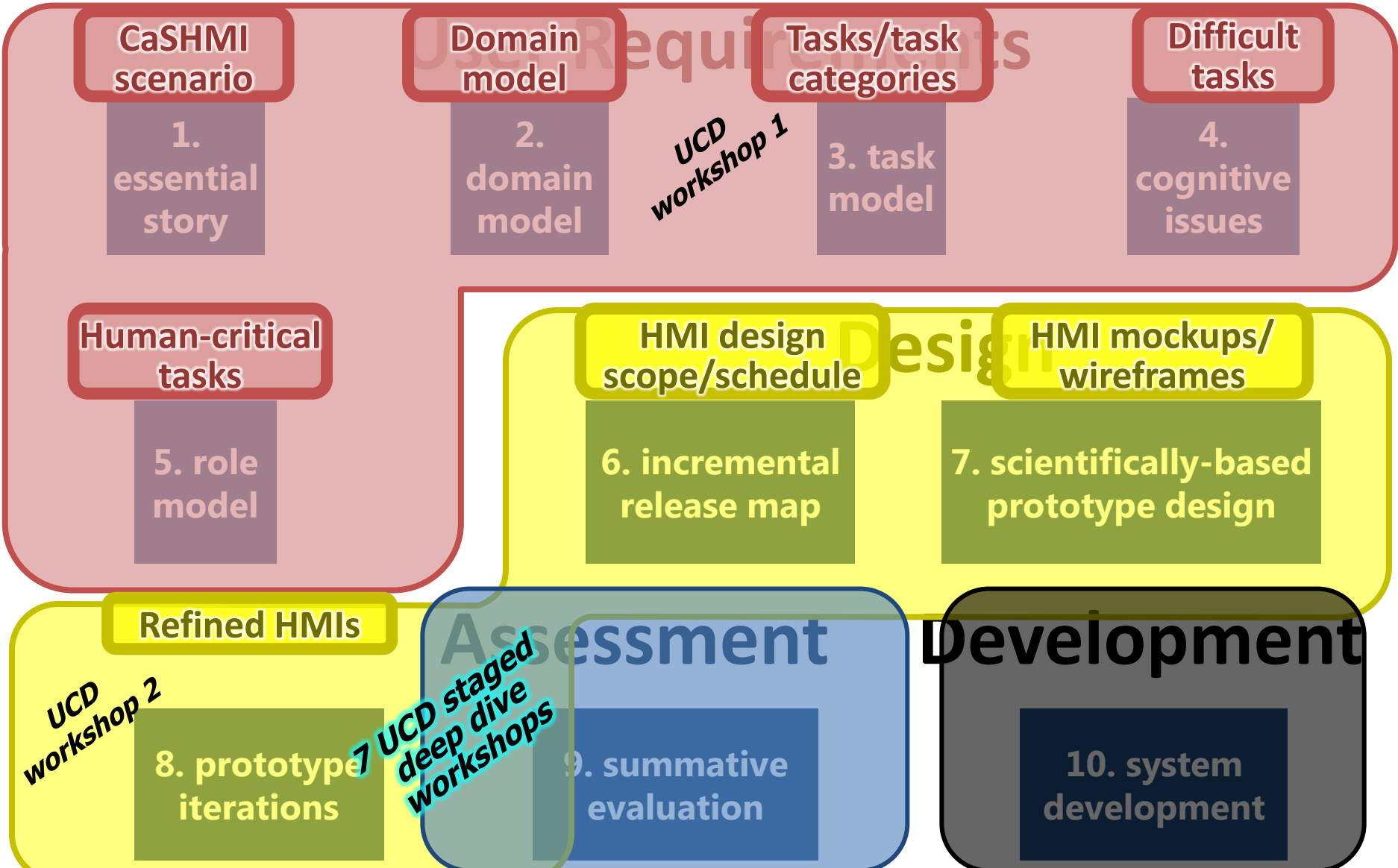


# User Centered Design

- Employed User Centered Design (UCD) process to ensure that CaSHMI supports operator task and domain needs
  - Requirements, Design, Assessment, Development
  - Continuous user involvement



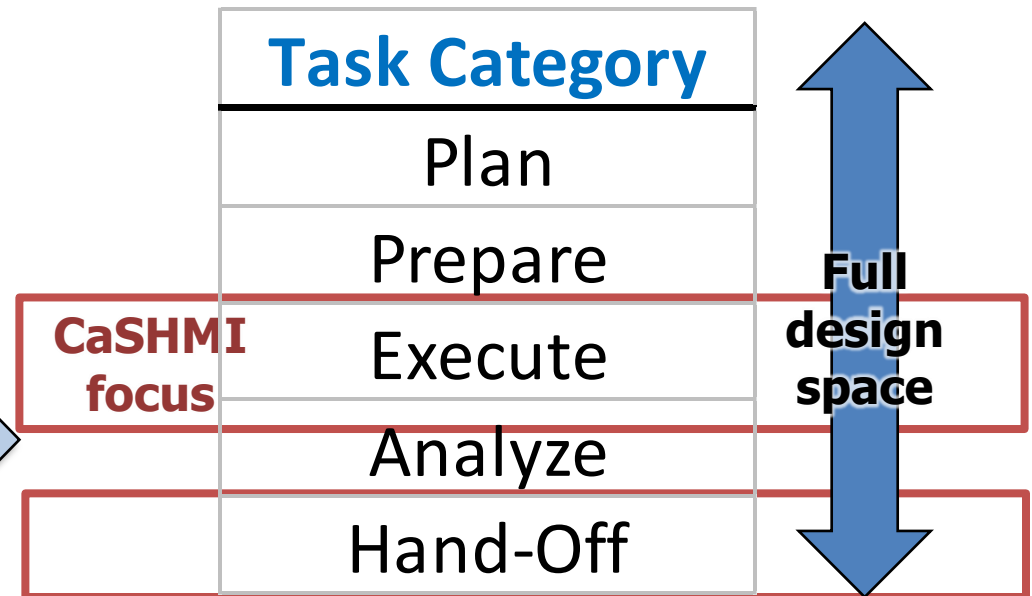
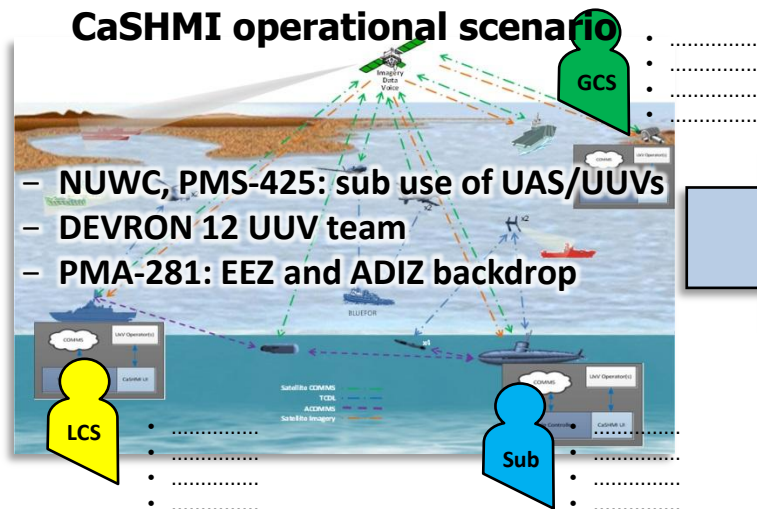
# User-Centered Design (UCD) process tailored for CaSHMI



# Established task requirements and information needs for UxV operations

- Identified **common tasks** involved in managing unmanned assets from GCS, LCS, Sub in operational scenario, to specify what tasks CaSHMI must support
- Considered range of
  - unmanned platforms
  - domains
  - operator roles

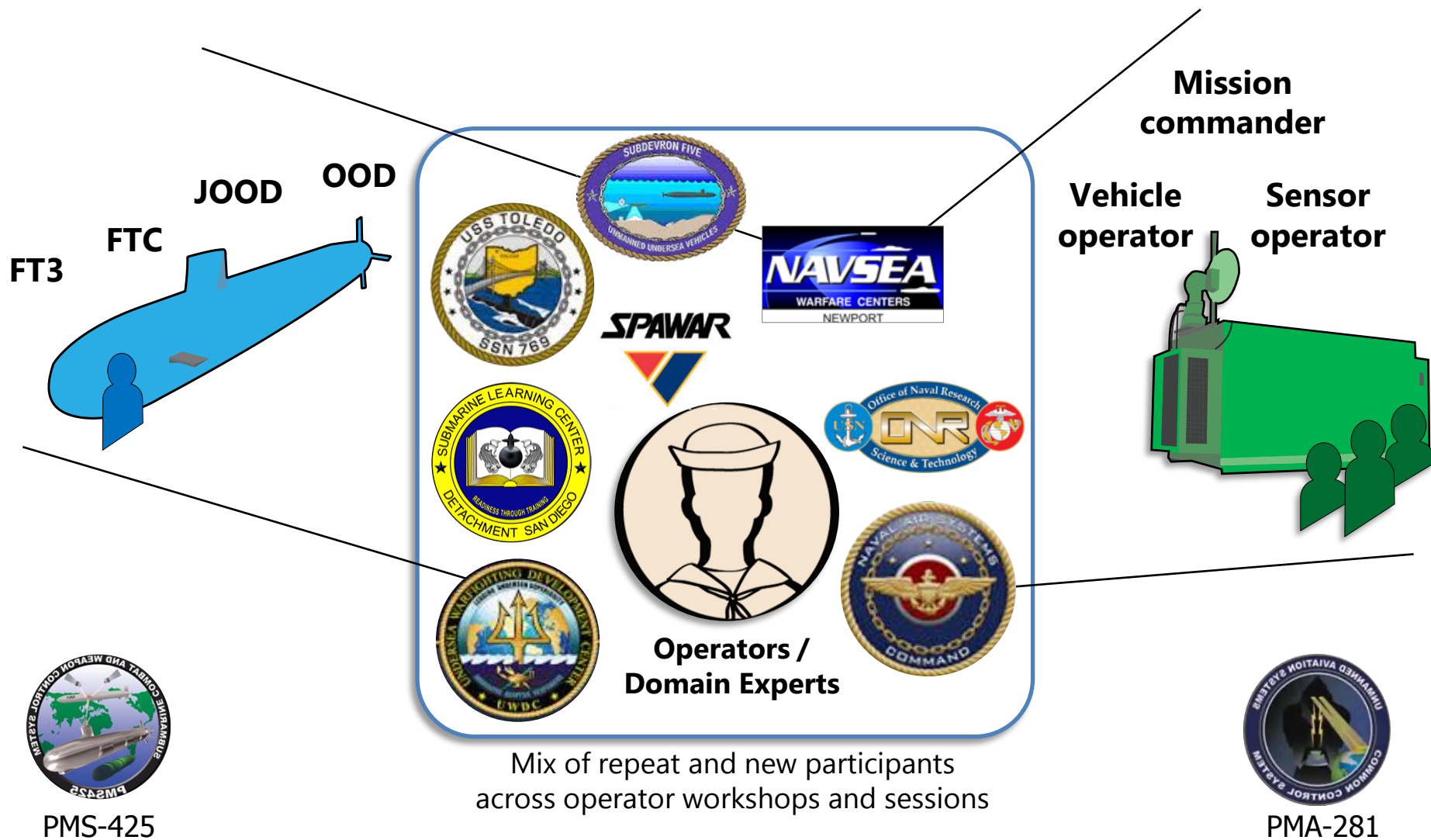
## CaSHMI operational scenario



**Task requirements are foundation for CaSHMI HMI design**



# Continuous operator/Fleet involvement during design



UCD 1: 8  
UCD 2: 8  
UCD Deep Dives: 15



# Some guiding principles used throughout CaSHMI Build 1 designs...

## **Information organization and access**

- Organize information hierarchically, to facilitate *understanding of relationships*
- Support linking of related information, to facilitate *information integration*
- Facilitate comparison and prioritization, for *supervisory management*
- Carefully map salience to severity/concern, to effectively *manage attention*
- Facilitate access to task-relevant information (availability in display  $\neq$  accessibility by operator!)
- Represent trend and projection, to facilitate *proactivity and prioritization*

## **Consistency with operator's mental model and existing work environment**

- Exploit familiar metaphors and intuitive coding, to *reduce learning curve and training*
- Maintain consistency with content and coding in existing systems
- Code factors that are common across UxVs, to facilitate *generalizability*

## **Scalability**

- Use scalable techniques for content that is likely to increase in number
- Develop concepts that work with expected future automation and nearer-term “manual” processing and populating

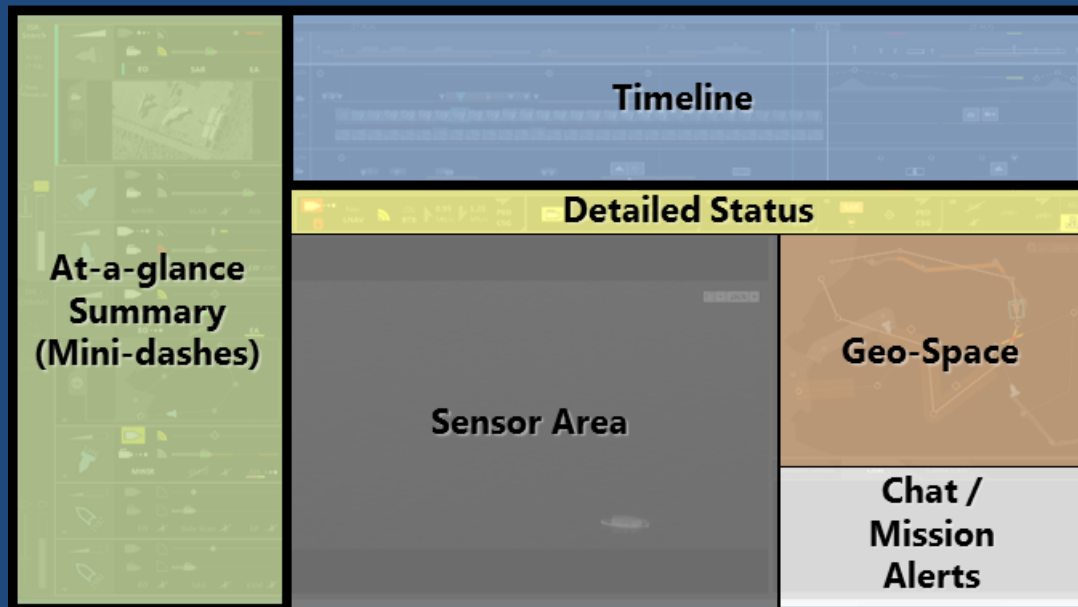
**Multi-UxV management is fundamentally an *information management* challenge.**

***Abstraction* is the overarching design philosophy!**

# CaSHMI Layout

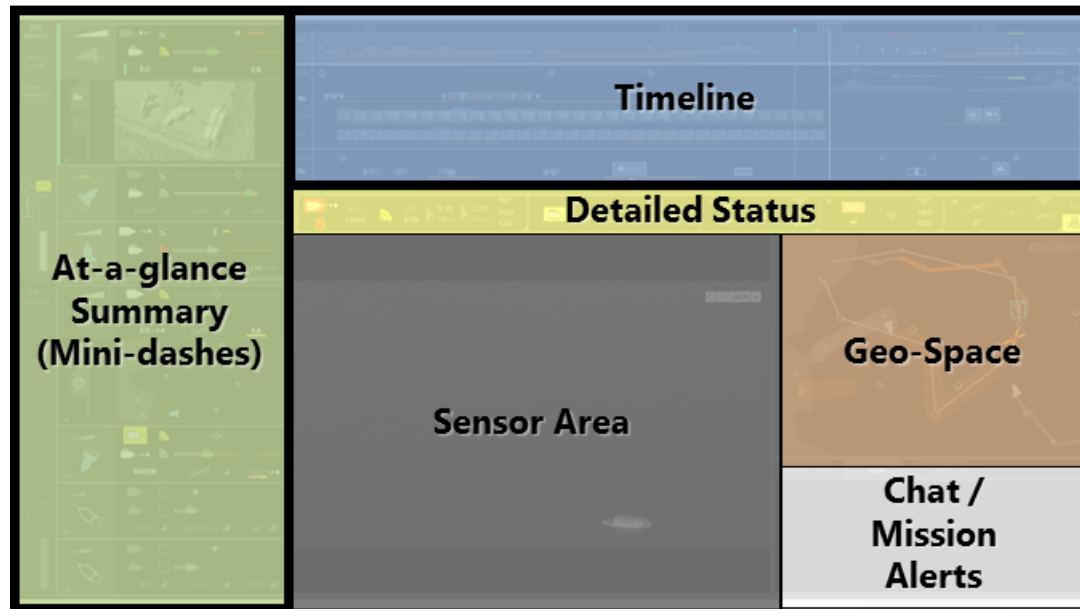
CaSHMI manages information by organizing it into *functional containers*.

- Information in containers is abstracted for high-level summaries, with progressive drill-down based upon operator selection or driven by critical mission events.
- Containers can be moved and optimized for different workstations, users, and/or missions.



- Intuitive progression from summary to details
- Interchangeable Geo-Space and Sensor Area
- Design fits all containers into a single screen...
  - ...alternatives for expanding onto multiple screens
- Possibilities for desktop and mobile configurations

# Overview and benefits of CaSHMI



What's new and improved in CaSHMI:

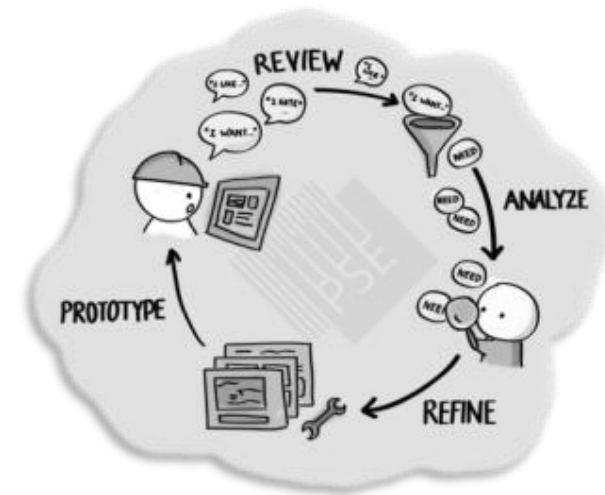
- Most **important** and frequently needed information is **easiest to access**
- Operators can **maintain awareness** of important status for non-selected unmanned vehicles **without moving away** from their primary vehicle of focus (supervisory control)
- **Consistent** with existing contact mgmt HMIs (color, contact symbology)
- Single design **accommodates different** unmanned vehicles (current and future, UAV/UUV), manages information increase for operator from future proliferation of UxVs in battlespace
- Supports **future operational concepts** of vehicle/sensor handoff/handover, inorganic sensors

# CaSHMI Assessment & Testing



# Using qualitative and quantitative methods to validate and refine design

- Ongoing formative assessments to validate and refine design
  - **Qualitative:**
    - Structured walkthroughs with operators/domain experts (workshops and telecons)
    - Live asset demonstrations
  - **Quantitative:**
    - Estimates of task execution steps, time, underlying processes
    - Laboratory experimentation





# Quantitative modeling applied: CaSHMI vs. Alternatives

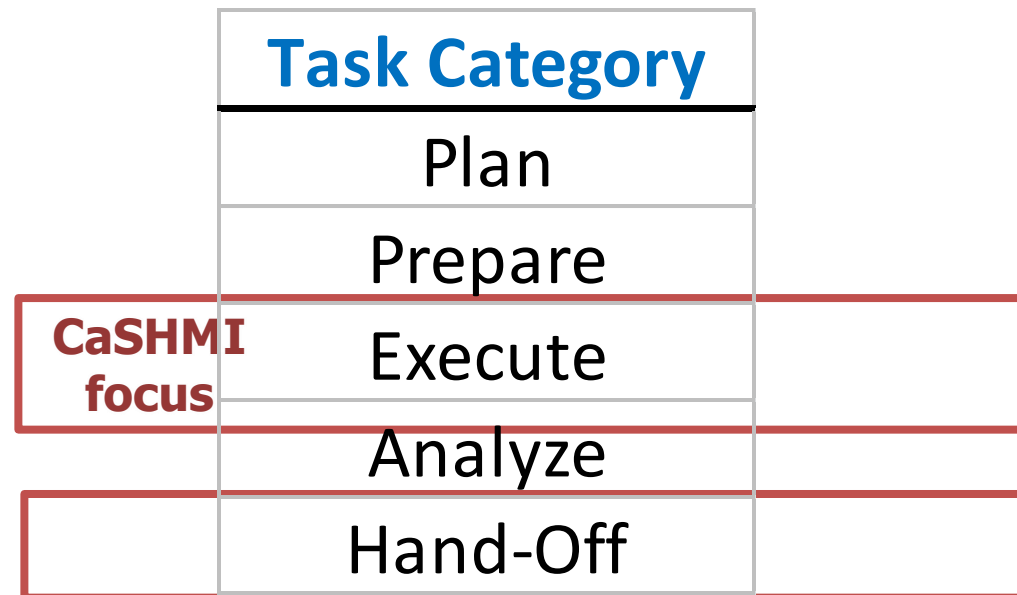
Modeling\* comparison of task execution with CaSHMI versus other technologies

- Number and types of tasks
- Quantitative time estimates

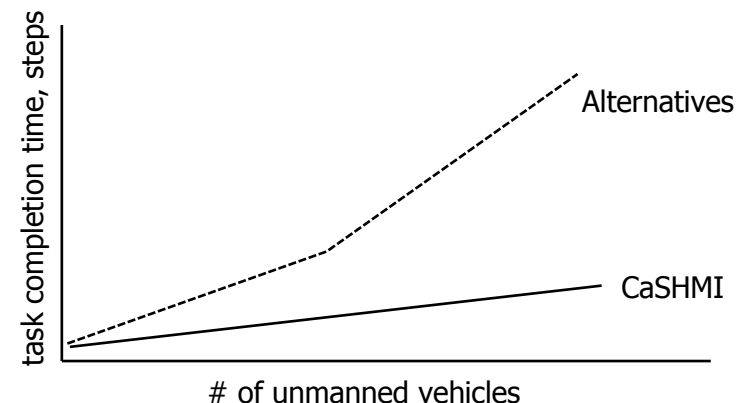
- **Example results**

- CaSHMI offers improvements
  - Adjusting vehicle controls (i.e., altitude and speed)
  - Monitoring vehicle routes
- CaSHMI meets existing capability
  - Adjusting loiter parameters

- Can highlight pain points and points with potential for error (e.g., potential for misses)
- Can examine impact of increasing # of UxVs on task performance (scalability)



**Illustrative example** of quantitative output...



\*Model Human Processor (Card, 1981)

# 2016 Annual Naval Technology Exercise (ANTX) *Submarine Combat System C2 of Cross Domain UxV Demonstration*

## AN/BYG-1 Combat System



- Multiple user interface options (CaSHMI, Topside, OpenUMI)

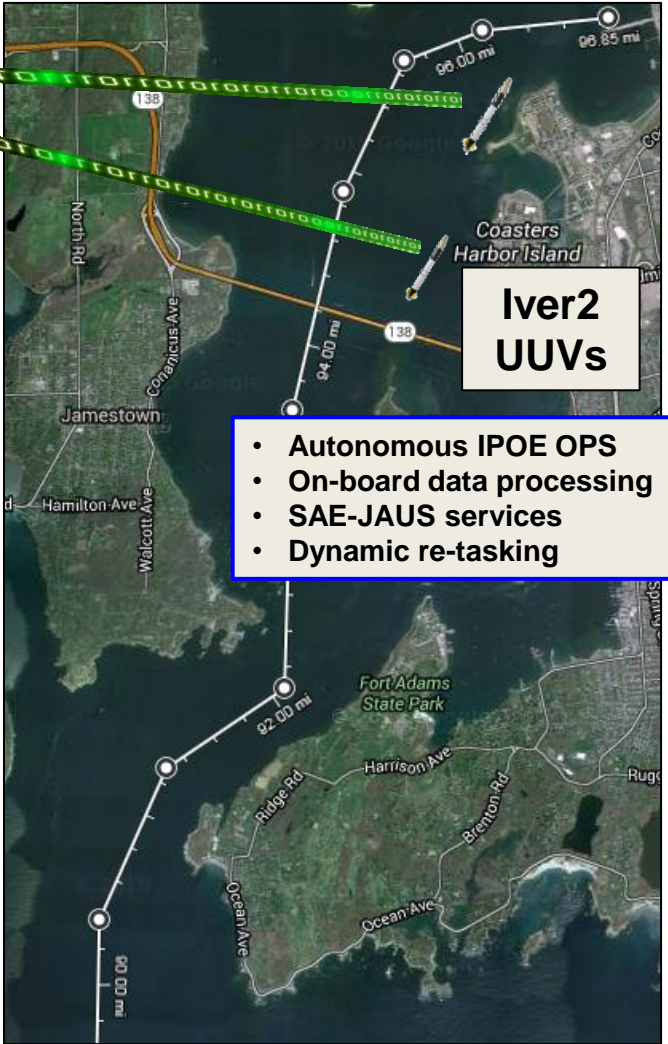
**JAUS  
DDL**



**Blackwing UAV**

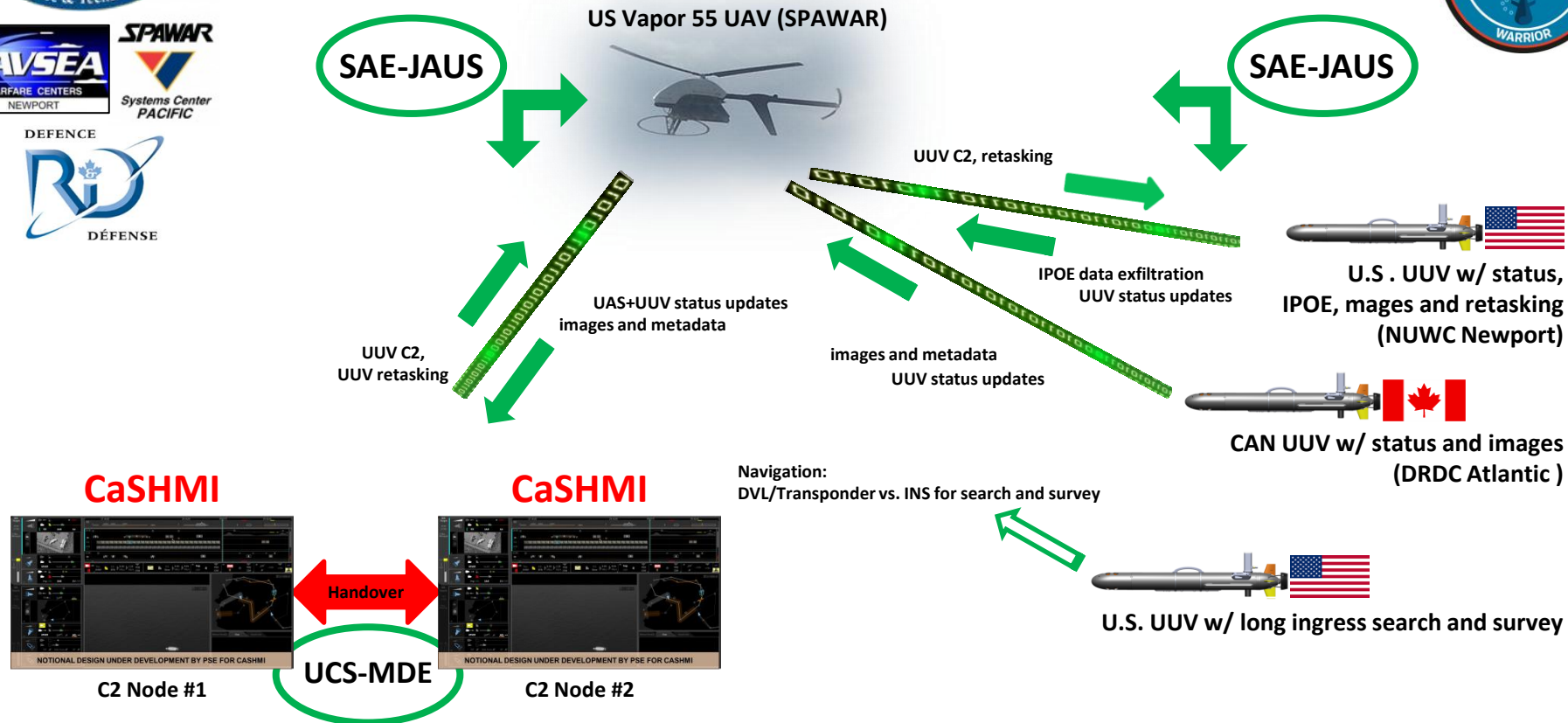
- UAV and UUV re-tasking
- UAV and UUV position and status updates
- IPOE data exfiltration
- Surface contact observations

**Bi-directional C2 of  
UxVs from SCS  
using SAE-JAUS  
via DDL Radio Link**





# OV-1: CaSHMI in Unmanned Warrior 2016



## CaSHMI accomplishments

1. C2 node for cross-domain UxV operations
2. UxV status, IPOE data display, and imagery
3. UUV retasking (mission toggle) through UAV relay
4. Multi-station (2x) sharing of UxV display (status and data exfil) and locally shared control of UUVs (data queries, retasking of UUVs through UAV relay)



# Summary

- CaSHMI has developed a human-machine interface (HMI) design for mission management of multiple cross-domain Unmanned Vehicles (UxVs) with a minimal number of operators in support of a range of Navy operational missions
- The design supports today's Fleet and provides a roadmap for future HMI development to support
  - Increasing numbers of UxVs and UxV missions
  - Expanded range of both vehicle and interface autonomy
- Unique standards based functionally modular architecture Decouples user interface from vehicle controller and provides numerous benefits including:
  - Vendor independent modifications & expansions of OMI and UxV controller
  - Vehicle agnostic functionally is common across UxVs
- Human Factors Testing
  - Qualitative modeling shows benefits of CaSHMI
- Successful live asset UxV command and control and data exfiltration has been performed with prototype software of relevant portions of the HMI design

***CaSHMI is an Enterprise Solution for  
Cross-Domain Unmanned Systems Control and Management***